GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3304
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2007
MERCHANT AIRPORTS
Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the growth in air traffic during each of the last three years and projections for the 11th Five Year Plan;

(b)the objectives of the concept of `Merchant Airports` and the number of such airports required to meet the demands of passenger and cargo traffic;

(c)whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy to depart from public-private joint venture and allow 100% foreign direct investment in `Merchant Airports` to be built, developed and operated by private companies purely on commercial viability basis but only under safety and security regulations of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) The annual growth of air passengers during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 was 21.5%, 23.7% & 31.4% respectively. The projection of growth of air passengers during 11th Five Year Plan is 21.6%.

(b), (c), (d) & (e): The extant policy on Airport Infrastructure facilitates construction of new Greenfield airports in public or private sectors or to be taken up as a joint venture subject to obtaining technical clearance and licence from the competent authority and approval of the Central Government. The policy also provides for 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Greenfield airport development only.